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Forest Service News



Pacific Northwest Region
P.O. Box 3623
Portland, Oregon 97208
(503) 221-2971

News contact:
Kurt Austermann
Merle Pugh

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

S-4
3-4-82

Seedling Policy Announced by Forest Service

A policy governing disposition of 6 million surplus tree seedlings was announced today by USDA-Forest Service Regional Forester Jeff M. Sirmon.

Seedlings are available through March 15 at Forest Service nurseries at Wind River, Washington, and Bend, Oregon, for purchase by reforestation contractors. After March 15, Sirmon said, seedlings will begin growing in their beds, thus losing their ability to survive transplanting.

Seedlings also are available free of charge to qualifying non-profit groups. These groups, Sirmon said, include schools and youth organizations which might be interested in the seedlings for purposes such as environmental education or a class project.

The Pacific Northwest Region's third nursery, the J. Herbert Stone Nursery in Medford, Oregon, has halted its seedling sale program for this season because the seedlings began growing. However, about 30,000 seedlings in cold storage are available to qualifying non-profit groups.

Sirmon said costs incurred by the donee in transporting seedlings from nursery to distribution point must be paid by the donee. He said giving seedlings directly to private citizens is prohibited. Remaining seedlings will be mulched into the ground to aid in the growing of the next crop.

Sirmon emphasized the need for non-profit groups to realize care must be taken to plant the seedlings in the same seed zone from which the seeds were collected initially, in order to assure healthy and desirable trees in the future.

Minimum seedling orders are 500 at Bend and Medford, and 1,000 at Wind River. For further information about free seedlings in Medford, call (503) 776-3585; in Bend, call (503) 382-6201; in Wind River, call (509) 427-4144. For further information about purchasing seedlings in Bend, call (503) 382-6922; in Wind River, call (206) 696-7537, or if calling from Portland, 285-9823.

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

S-5
3-9-82

Virus manufactured to control tussock moth

A virus is being manufactured in Corvallis, Oregon, for use in combatting the Douglas-fir tussock moth in Oregon and Washington.

Supplies of the virus may be manufactured in sufficient quantity in time to use in controlling future infestations of the tussock moth, according to Jeff M. Sirmon, Pacific Northwest Regional Forester, USDA Forest Service.

The virus, fatal only to the Douglas-fir tussock moth in its larva (or caterpillar) stage, builds naturally at infrequent intervals in the moth's life cycle. Sirmon said Forest Service entomologists have isolated this virus, produced it under laboratory condition, and registered it with the Environmental Protection Agency. The Forest Service has now started production at Corvallis to stockpile a supply of the virus.

One of the most serious defoliators of timber stands in the western United States, the Douglas-fir tussock moth has a life cycle that causes outbreaks of the insect every 9 to 18 years. Natural control of a tussock moth epidemic normally will not happen before widespread damage has occurred.

The last major outbreak of the tussock moth occurred in eastern Oregon and Washington in the early 1970s, and ended in 1974 with the application of DDT on 421,000 acres of timber land.

In 1974, DDT was the only known effective control against the tussock moth. Special emergency approval for use of DDT was granted by the EPA, contingent upon development of acceptable alternative controls. Entomologists believe the virus is the most promising alternative to be developed and registered with the EPA.

Last month, entomologists said a new outbreak of the tussock moth in eastern Washington and Oregon is possible within the next couple of years. The prediction was made based on samplings of the pest collected during the past year.

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

S-6
3-10-82

Supervisor named for Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

Jerry G. Allen, deputy supervisor of the Mt. Hood National Forest, Gresham, has been selected supervisor of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest with headquarters in Baker.

Allen's selection, effective April 18, was announced by Pacific Northwest Regional Forester Jeff M. Sirmon. Allen succeeds Al Oard, a 34-year veteran of the USDA-Forest Service who retired in December.

Allen received a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Missouri in 1957, and began his full-time career with the Forest Service that year as a timber sale administrator on the Helena National Forest in Montana.

After seven years and two promotions, Allen left the Helena Forest's Townsend Ranger District where he had been assistant ranger, to become district ranger on the Spotted Bear Ranger District of the Flathead National Forest, also in Montana. In 1965 Allen was named district ranger of the Flathead's Tally Lake ranger district.

Allen was appointed fire, range and wildlife staff officer with the St. Joe National Forest in Idaho in 1968.

In 1972 Allen was promoted to assistant supervisor in charge of resources on the Bitterroot National Forest in Montana, and four years later was named to the same position on the Deschutes National Forest in Bend.

From Bend, Allen moved in 1978 to the regional office in Portland as appeals coordinator in the office of planning, programming and budgeting. In 1980 Allen was named deputy supervisor of the Mt. Hood Forest.

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

S-7
4-6-82

Variety of Jobs Open to Forest Volunteers

Opportunities for volunteers to help maintain and improve the National Forests of Oregon and Washington are as varied as the Forests themselves according to Jeff M. Sirmon, Pacific Northwest Regional Forester for the USDA Forest Service.

"In an effort to reduce operating costs without reducing services, we are seeking people to give their time and talents to help the Forest Service continue to provide National Forest visitors with a rewarding experience," Sirmon said, "and there is a job to fit most anyone."

In eastern Oregon and eastern Washington emphasis will be on range management activities and dispersed recreation. In western Oregon and Washington emphasis will be on timber management and developed recreation sites that serve population areas. Work might include analyzing range land for plant species composition, wildlife census, monitoring stream flow and water quality, helping backcountry travelers, maintaining trails and camping areas, conducting interpretive natural history walks, or even office activities from clerical work to using computers.

(more)

Work hours are flexible. Volunteers can work full-time, part-time, or on a one-time basis. Major qualifications are good health and a willingness to work. People with special skills are a plus. There is no age limit, but persons under 18 need written consent from a parent or guardian.

Volunteers are not federal employees, but do receive legal protection and insurance to cover work-related injuries. In some cases, they can be reimbursed for travel, food, and lodging expenses.

Entire organizations may volunteer, too, Sirmon said. For instance, through the "Adopt a Trail" program an organization can volunteer to maintain and improve a trail in a National Forest. Facilities, lakes, and wildlife habitats are among other resources and facilities available for "adoption."

Persons interested in doing volunteer work should contact their nearest Forest Service office.

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

S-8
4-23-82

Pacific Crest Trail Plan Completed

Many uses of the 2,560-mile Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail are assured in a comprehensive management plan signed into effect by the Chief of the USDA-Forest Service, R. Max Peterson.

The plan was prepared by the Forest Service in consultation with the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail Advisory Council, composed of representatives of land owners, users, and special interest groups. The Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and States of California, Oregon, and Washington also cooperated in the plan's development.

Under the comprehensive plan, an outgrowth of a recently completed environmental analysis, the trail will be managed for uses such as long distance hiking, horseback riding, day hiking, and winter recreation.

All but 290 miles of the trail have been completed. Temporary, signed routes along the unfinished sections, mostly in southern California, connect finished segments. Two miles in the Rogue River National Forest in Oregon and 11 miles between the Columbia River and the south boundary of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in Washington remain to be completed.

There are 767 miles of the trail within National Park and National Forest Wilderness, and state parks, where the land is managed primarily for scenic purposes.

(more)

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Another 1,490 miles of the trail are on other public lands, including 24 National Forests, where trail use will co-exist with other uses such as timber harvesting, grazing, and geothermal and mineral exploration.

The remaining 303 miles on private land maintain continuity of the trail. The plan directs agencies to minimize trail-related impacts on private land management by acquiring only that land necessary to construct and maintain the trail and provide space for campsites.

People may obtain further information and review the comprehensive management plan, the environmental assessment, and the decision notice adopting the plan, at the following locations:

USDA-Forest Service (Box 2417)
South Bldg., 12th & Independence, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20013

USDA-Forest Service
Pacific Northwest Region
319 S.W. Pine St. (Box 3623)
Portland, OR 97208

USDA-Forest Service
Pacific Southwest Region
630 Sansome St.
San Francisco, CA 94111

USDA-Forest Service
Intermountain Region
324 25th St.
Ogden, UT 84401

The decision adopting the plan is subject to administrative review (appeal), pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations (36 CFR 211.19).

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(Attachment)

PACIFIC CREST NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

Total Length 2,560 miles

Trail Responsibility* (miles)

	Wash.	Oregon	Calif.	TOTAL	%
National Park Service (The National Parks)	29	31	189	249	10
Forest Service (The National Forests)	475	370	1,273	2,118	83
Bureau of Land Management	<u>-</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>193</u>	<u>7</u>
Total Miles	504	441	1,615	2,560	100

* Per Memorandums of Agreement

Completion of Trail Tread

	Wash.	Oregon	Calif.
Miles completed	493	439	1,338
Uncompleted	<u>11</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>277</u>
Target for Completion - 1986			
Total Miles	504	441	1,615 = 2,560 miles

Secretary of Agriculture's Advisory Council

Oregon

Dale Cowen, Governor Atiyeh's Representative
James Fisher, Oregon State Dept. of Forestry
Phyllis Ford, University of Oregon
Garnett Cannon, Boy Scouts of America
Charles Collins, National Wildlife Federation
Eleanor Dyke, Mazamas (Outdoor Club)

Washington

Kenneth Wilcox, Washington State Horseman Association
Grant Sharpe, College of Forest Resources - University of Wash.
James W. Scott, Governor Spellman's Representative
Howard Millan, Weyerhaeuser Co.
John P. Duke, Burlington Northern
Louise Marshall, Outdoor Writer

(March 1982)

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

S-9
5-4-82

Hells Canyon Plan Okayed

A management plan for the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA) has been approved by the Chief of the USDA-Forest Service, R. Max Peterson.

The original plan, submitted a year ago, resulted in a number of suggestions concerning powerboat and non-motorized craft use of the Snake River. As a result of the suggestions, some additional use of the river by powerboats is allowed. There is no change in the number of non-motorized craft, which have been controlled for several years.

The principal change allows power and non-mechanized craft to share use of the river during the peak season, usually May-September, effective the 1983 season. In addition, the plan provides for a broad range of land and recreation uses for the NRA located in Oregon and Idaho.

During the regulated season, 50 commercial and 50 private powerboat days per week will be the capacity permitted from Pittsburg Landing upstream to the base of Rush Creek rapids.

Within the limit, Peterson said, a maximum of six powerboats per day of combined commercial and private use (three each) may be scheduled to continue up the Snake from the base of Rush Creek rapids to Hells Canyon Dam.

Powerboat operators applying for permits to use the river above the base of Rush Creek rapids must meet minimum standards required because of hazards resulting from water releases from the dam and downstream rapids conditions. Campsite assignment priority along the river generally will be given to floaters.

Other issues considered in Peterson's decision involved timber management definitions, private land regulations, and forage allocation between elk and domestic livestock. It also considered how the NRA plan will fit in with the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest land management plan now being prepared.

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